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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/904,593	07/16/2001	Pankaj Vyas	CSCO-008/4339	2619

			EXAMINER
26392	7590	05/11/2005	MOORE JR, MICHAEL J

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2666	

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Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

PTO-90C (Rev. 10/03)

	Application No.	Applicant(s)
Office Action Summary	09/904,593	VYAS, PANKAJ
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Michael J. Moore, Jr.	2666	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE <u>3</u> MONTH(S) FROM
THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.
- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed
  after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
  Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any
  earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1)☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on *16 July 2001*.

2a)☐ This action is **FINAL**.   2b)☒ This action is non-final.

3)☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is
closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4)☒ Claim(s) *1-51* is/are pending in the application.

4a) Of the above claim(s) *12-15,24-26,36-38 and 48-51* is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6)☒ Claim(s) *1-11,16-23,27-35 and 39-47* is/are rejected.

7)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8)☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9)☒ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10)☒ The drawing(s) filed on *16 July 2001* is/are: a)☒ accepted or b)☐ objected to by the Examiner.

Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11)☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12)☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

a)☐ All b)☐ Some * c)☐ None of:

1.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

2.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.

3.☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage
application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1)☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)

2)☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)

3)☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date *2/7/02*.

4)☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ .

5)☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)

6)☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Election/Restrictions

1.   Applicant's election with traverse of Group I claims **1-11, 16-23, 27-35, and 39-47**
in the reply filed on 2/9/2005 is acknowledged.

The traversal is on the ground(s) that claim **1** is not believed to correspond to the
definition of "flow control" provided by Applicant and that both claim **1** of Group I and
Group II claims are believed to be concerned with connection set-up. This is not found
persuasive because of the reasons provided in the previous Office Action. To clarify,
claim **1** recites the limitation *"determining whether to send the IP packet on the first SVC*
or the second SVC according to services desired to be provided for the IP packet; and
sending the IP packet on the determined one of the first SVC or the second SVC" which
is concerned with the regulation of data transmission on separate paths through a
network. This corresponds to subject matter in class 370, subclass 235 (flow control of
data transmission through a network).

Accordingly, Group II claims **12-15, 24-26, 36-38, and 48-51** are withdrawn from
further consideration as being drawn to a non-elected invention. Applicant is requested
to cancel non-elected claims **12-15, 24-26, 36-38, and 48-51**.

Information Disclosure Statement

1.   The information disclosure statement (IDS) submitted on 2/7/2002 is in
compliance with the provisions of 37 CFR 1.97. Accordingly, the examiner has
considered the information disclosure statement.

Specification

2.   The disclosure is objected to because it contains an embedded hyperlink and/or

other form of browser-executable code. Applicant is required to delete the embedded

hyperlink and/or other form of browser-executable code. See MPEP § 608.01. On page

11, line 7, the hyperlink www.atmforum.com should be deleted.

Claim Objections

3.   Claims **7, 8, 11, 22, 33, 35, 45 and 47** are objected to because of the following

informalities:

Regarding claim **7,** on line 3, the word "the" is missing before word "second".

Also, on line 4, the word "vale" should be "value".

Regarding claim **8**, on line 1, the word "a" is missing before word "signaling".

Regarding claim **11**, the term "NSAP" should be "a network service access point

(NSAP)" in this first instance. Also, on line 2, the word "a" is missing before word

"precedence".

Regarding claim **22**, on line 4, the word "vale" should be "value".

Regarding claim **33**, on line 4, the word "vale" should be "value".

Regarding claim **35**, the term "NSAP" should be "a network service access point

(NSAP)" in this first instance. Also, on line 2, the word "a" is missing before word

"precedence".

Regarding claim **45**, on line 4, the word "vale" should be "value".

Regarding claim **47**, on line 1, the phrase "the router of 41" should be "the router

of claim 41". Also, on line 3, the word "an" is missing before the word "edge".

Appropriate correction is required.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

4.   The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

> The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly
> claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

5.   Claims **11, 20, 23, 41, 43, and 47** are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second

paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the

subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

6.   Claim **11** recites the limitations "said table" and "said second router" in line 1.

There is insufficient antecedent basis for this limitation in the claim. Examiner believes

that claim **11** should depend on claim **5** rather than claim **2** in order to have proper

antecedent basis.

7.   Claim **20** recites the limitation "said second router" in line 4. There is insufficient

antecedent basis for this limitation in the claim. It is suggested this limitation be

changed to "said another router".

8.   Claim **23** recites the limitation "said Signaling set up message" in lines 2-3.

There is insufficient antecedent basis for this limitation in the claim.

9.   Claim **41** recites the limitation "said table" in lines 1 and 4. There is insufficient

antecedent basis for this limitation in the claim. It is suggested this limitation be

changed to "said SVC table".

10.   Claim **43** recites the limitation "said second router" in line 4. There is insufficient

antecedent basis for this limitation in the claim. It is suggested this limitation be

changed to "said another router".

11.   Claim **47** recites the limitation "said table" in line 1. There is insufficient

antecedent basis for this limitation in the claim. It is suggested this limitation be

changed to "said SVC table".

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

12.   The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that

form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

> A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –
>
> (e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

13.   Claims **1-11, 16-23, 27-35, and 39-47** rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being

anticipated by Katsube et al. (U.S. 6,144,661) ("Katsube"). Katsube teaches all of the

limitations of the listed claims with the reasoning that follows.

        Regarding claim **1**, "a method of providing differentiated services for IP packets

transported on an ATM backbone" is anticipated by the method spoken of on column 9,

lines 26-54 pertaining to Figures 2 and 3. "Provisioning a first switched virtual circuit

(SVC) and a second SVC on the ATM backbone" is anticipated by the provisioning

method shown in Figure 2b and spoken of on column 8, lines 3-18 as well as column 8,

lines 61-66 where a 10Mbps virtual circuit is established between sending party 101 and

receiving party 201 and a UBR virtual circuit is established between sending party 101

and receiving party 202. "Receiving an IP packet" is anticipated by the IP request

message received by the sending party from the receiving party as spoken of on column

8, lines 49-54. Lastly, "determining whether to send the IP packet on the first SVC or the second SVC according to services desired to be provided for the IP packet" and "sending the IP packet on the determined one of the first SVC or second SVC" is anticipated by the determination of the VPI/VCI value for the appropriate route based on the received requested service attribute (QoS) in the IP message spoken of on column 9, lines 39-47 as well as the sending of a VC setup request to downstream ATM node 303 as spoken of on column 9, lines 48-54.

Regarding claim **2**, "wherein the determining comprises examining a header of the IP packet" is anticipated by the processing of the received IP message to determine the ATM level requested service attribute for the corresponding output VC spoken of on column 9, lines 25-31.

Regarding claim **3**, "maintaining a table indicating a specific one of the first SVC and the second SVC on which to send IP packets having a specific precedence value in a type of service (TOS) field in the header, wherein the IP packet is sent according to the data stored in the table" is anticipated by resource management table 401 of Figure 3d that contains different VPI/VCI values (indicates first and second SVC) that correspond to constant bit rate (CBR) or unspecified bit rate (UBR) (precedence values) located in a service attribute field (TOS field).

Regarding claim **4**, "wherein the table indicates that a plurality of precedence values are to be mapped to the same SVC" is anticipated by UBR precedence values in Figure 3d that both correspond to VPI/VCI 80/40 (same SVC).

Regarding claim **5**, "initiating a set up request from a first router to a second

router to set up the first SVC, wherein the first router and the second router interface

directly with the ATM backbone" is anticipated by the VC setup request sent from the

sending party to the receiving party as spoken of on column 8, lines 12-22. Lastly,

"wherein the set up request is sent only after reception of a first IP packet to be sent on

the first SVC, wherein the first SVC is provisioned between the first router and the

second router" is anticipated by the VC setup request transmitted upon the sending

party learning a QoS request of the receiving party as spoken of on column 9, lines 9-

25.

Regarding claim **6**, "wherein the second router also sends on the first SVC the IP

packets having the same precedence value as the first IP packet" is anticipated by UBR

precedence values in Figure 3d that both correspond to VPI/VCI 80/40 (same SVC).

Regarding claim **7**, "sending a precedence data from the first router to the

second router, wherein the precedence data indicates that the precedence value of the

first IP packet is to be associated with the first SVC such that the second router can

send packets with the same precedence value on the first SVC" is anticipated by the

processing of the received IP message (precedence data) to determine the ATM level

requested service attribute (precedence value) for the corresponding output VC spoken

of on column 9, lines 25-31.

Regarding claim **8**, "wherein the precedence data is contained in a signaling set

up message representing the set up request" is anticipated by the processing of the

received IP message (precedence data) to determine the ATM level requested service

attribute for the corresponding output VC spoken of on column 9, lines 25-31.

Regarding claim **9**, "wherein the precedence data is encoded in a broadband

higher layer information (BHLI) information element (IE) contained in the signaling set

up message" is anticipated by the processing of the received IP message (precedence

data) to determine the ATM level requested service attribute for the corresponding

output VC spoken of on column 9, lines 25-31.

Regarding claim **10**, "wherein each of the first and second router comprises an

edge router" is anticipated by the cell-switched router spoken of on column 7, lines 30-

36.

Regarding claim **11**, "wherein the table stores an IP address, an NSAP of the

second router, a precedence value, and a SVC identifier in each row" is anticipated by

resource management table 401 of Figure 3d that contains a receiving party address (IP

address), a call identifier (NSAP), a CBR or UBR service attribute (precedence value)

and a corresponding VPI/VCI (SVC identifier) in each row.

Regarding claim **16**, "a router for providing differentiated services for IP packets

transported on an ATM backbone" is anticipated by the method spoken of on column 9,

lines 26-54 pertaining to Figures 2 and 3 performed by connection control units (Figure

1) of ATM nodes. "Means for provisioning a first switched virtual circuit (SVC) and a

second SVC on the ATM backbone" is anticipated by the provisioning method shown in

Figure 2b and spoken of on column 8, lines 3-18 as well as column 8, lines 61-66

performed by connection control units of Figure 1 (means) where a 10Mbps virtual

circuit is established between sending party 101 and receiving party 201 and a UBR

virtual circuit is established between sending party 101 and receiving party 202.

"Means for receiving an IP packet" is anticipated by the IP request message received by

the sending party (means) from the receiving party as spoken of on column 8, lines 49-

54. Lastly, "means for determining whether to send the IP packet on the first SVC or

the second SVC according to services desired to be provided for the IP packet" and

"means for sending the IP packet on the determined one of the first SVC or the second

SVC" is anticipated by the determination of the VPI/VCI value for the appropriate route

based on the received requested service attribute (QoS) in the IP message spoken of

on column 9, lines 39-47 as well as the sending of a VC setup request to downstream

ATM node 303 from sending party 101 (means) as spoken of on column 9, lines 48-54.

Regarding claim **17**, "means for determining examines a header of the IP packet

to determine whether to send the IP packet on the first SVC or the second SVC" is

anticipated by the processing of the received IP message to determine the ATM level

requested service attribute for the corresponding output VC spoken of on column 9,

lines 25-31.

Regarding claim **18**, "means for determining further maintains a table indicating a

specific one of the first SVC and the second SVC on which to send IP packets having a

specific precedence value in a type of service (TOS) field in the header, wherein the IP

packet is sent according to the data stored in the table" is anticipated by resource

management table 401 of Figure 3d that contains different VPI/VCI values (indicates

first and second SVC) that correspond to constant bit rate (CBR) or unspecified bit rate

(UBR) (precedence values) located in a service attribute field (TOS field).

Regarding claim **19**, "wherein the table indicates that a plurality of precedence

values are to be mapped to the same SVC" is anticipated by UBR precedence values in

Figure 3d that both correspond to VPI/VCI 80/40 (same SVC).

Regarding claim **20**, "means for provisioning initiates a set up request to another

router to set up the first SVC" is anticipated by the VC setup request sent from the

sending party (means) to the receiving party as spoken of on column 8, lines 12-22.

Lastly, "wherein the set up request is sent only after reception of a first IP packet to be

sent on the first SVC, wherein the first SVC is provisioned to terminate at the second

router" is anticipated by the VC setup request transmitted upon the sending party

learning a QoS request of the receiving party as spoken of on column 9, lines 9-25.

Regarding claim **21**, "wherein the another router also sends on the first SVC the

IP packets having the same precedence value as the first IP packet" is anticipated by

UBR precedence values in Figure 3d that both correspond to VPI/VCI 80/40 (same

SVC).

Regarding claim **22**, "means for sending a precedence data to another router,

wherein the precedence data indicates that the precedence value of the first IP packet

is to be associated with the first SVC such that another router can send packets with the

same precedence value on the first SVC" is anticipated by the processing of the

received IP message (precedence data) to determine the ATM level requested service

attribute (precedence value) for the corresponding output VC spoken of on column 9, lines 25-31.

Regarding claim **23**, "wherein the precedence data is encoded in a broadband higher layer information (BHLI) information element (IE) contained in the signaling set up message" is anticipated by the processing of the received IP message (precedence data) to determine the ATM level requested service attribute for the corresponding output VC spoken of on column 9, lines 25-31.

Regarding claim **27**, "a computer readable medium carrying one or more sequences of instructions for causing a router to provide differentiated service to IP packets" is anticipated by the method spoken of on column 9, lines 26-54 pertaining to Figures 2 and 3 performed by connection control units (Figure 1) of ATM nodes. "Provisioning a first switched virtual circuit (SVC) and a second SVC on the ATM backbone" is anticipated by the provisioning method shown in Figure 2b and spoken of on column 8, lines 3-18 as well as column 8, lines 61-66 where a 10Mbps virtual circuit is established between sending party 101 and receiving party 201 and a UBR virtual circuit is established between sending party 101 and receiving party 202. "Receiving an IP packet" is anticipated by the IP request message received by the sending party from the receiving party as spoken of on column 8, lines 49-54. Lastly, "determining whether to send the IP packet on the first SVC or the second SVC according to services desired to be provided for the IP packet" and "sending the IP packet on the determined one of the first SVC or second SVC" is anticipated by the determination of the VPI/VCI value for the appropriate route based on the received requested service attribute (QoS) in the

IP message spoken of on column 9, lines 39-47 as well as the sending of a VC setup

request to downstream ATM node 303 as spoken of on column 9, lines 48-54.

Regarding claim **28**, "wherein the determining comprises examining a header of

the IP packet" is anticipated by the processing of the received IP message to determine

the ATM level requested service attribute for the corresponding output VC spoken of on

column 9, lines 25-31.

Regarding claim **29**, "maintaining a table indicating a specific one of the first SVC

and the second SVC on which to send IP packets having a specific precedence value in

a type of service (TOS) field in the header, wherein the IP packet is sent according to

the data stored in the table" is anticipated by resource management table 401 of Figure

3d that contains different VPI/VCI values (indicates first and second SVC) that

correspond to constant bit rate (CBR) or unspecified bit rate (UBR) (precedence values)

located in a service attribute field (TOS field).

Regarding claim **30**, "wherein the table indicates that a plurality of precedence

values are to be mapped to the same SVC" is anticipated by UBR precedence values in

Figure 3d that both correspond to VPI/VCI 80/40 (same SVC).

Regarding claim **31**, "initiating a set up request to another router to set up the first

SVC, wherein the first router and the another router interface directly with the ATM

backbone" is anticipated by the VC setup request sent from the sending party to the

receiving party as spoken of on column 8, lines 12-22. Lastly, "wherein the set up

request is sent only after reception of a first IP packet to be sent on the first SVC,

wherein the first SVC is provisioned between the first router and the another router" is

anticipated by the VC setup request transmitted upon the sending party learning a QoS

request of the receiving party as spoken of on column 9, lines 9-25.

Regarding claim **32**, "wherein the another router also sends on the first SVC the

IP packets having the same precedence value as the first IP packet" is anticipated by

UBR precedence values in Figure 3d that both correspond to VPI/VCI 80/40 (same

SVC).

Regarding claim **33**, "sending a precedence data to another router, wherein the

precedence data indicates that the precedence value of the first IP packet is to be

associated with the first SVC such that another router can send packets with the same

precedence value on the first SVC" is anticipated by the processing of the received IP

message (precedence data) to determine the ATM level requested service attribute

(precedence value) for the corresponding output VC spoken of on column 9, lines 25-

31.

Regarding claim **34**, "wherein the precedence data is encoded in a broadband

higher layer information (BHLI) information element (IE) contained in a signaling set up

message" is anticipated by the processing of the received IP message (precedence

data) to determine the ATM level requested service attribute for the corresponding

output VC spoken of on column 9, lines 25-31.

Regarding claim **35**, "wherein the table stores an IP address, an NSAP of

another router, a precedence value, and a SVC identifier in each row" is anticipated by

resource management table 401 of Figure 3d that contains a receiving party address (IP

address), a call identifier (NSAP), a CBR or UBR service attribute (precedence value)

and a corresponding VPI/VCI (SVC identifier) in each row.

Regarding claim **39**, "a router for providing differentiated services for IP packets

transported on an ATM backbone" is anticipated by the method spoken of on column 9,

lines 26-54 pertaining to Figures 2 and 3 performed by connection control units (Figure

1) of ATM nodes. "An inbound interface receiving an IP packet" is anticipated by the IP

request message received by the sending party (inbound interface) from the receiving

party as spoken of on column 8, lines 49-54. "A memory storing an SVC table

indicating that a first switched virtual circuit (SVC) and a second SVC are provisioned

on the ATM backbone" is anticipated by the connection control unit (memory) of Figure

1 that contains resource management table 16 shown in Figures 1 and 3d that indicates

the provisioning of multiple virtual circuits. Lastly, "an encapsulator determining

whether to send the IP packet on the first SVC or the second SVC according to services

desired to be provided for the IP packet, the encapsulator generating a plurality of cells

designed for transmission on the determined one of the first SVC or the second SVC"

and "an output interface sending the plurality of cells on the ATM backbone" is

anticipated by the determination of the VPI/VCI value for the appropriate route based on

the received requested service attribute (QoS) in the IP message spoken of on column

9, lines 39-47 as well as the sending of a VC setup request to downstream ATM node

303 from sending party 101 (encapsulator with output interface) as spoken of on column

9, lines 48-54.

Regarding claim **40**, "the ATM encapsulator examines a header of the IP packet to determine whether to send the IP packet on the first SVC or the second SVC" is anticipated by the processing of the received IP message to determine the ATM level requested service attribute for the corresponding output VC spoken of on column 9, lines 25-31.

Regarding claim **41**, "wherein the table indicates a specific one of the first SVC and the second SVC on which to send IP packets having a specific precedence value in a type of service (TOS) field in the header, wherein the IP packet is sent according to the data stored in the table" is anticipated by resource management table 401 of Figure 3d that contains different VPI/VCI values (indicates first and second SVC) that correspond to constant bit rate (CBR) or unspecified bit rate (UBR) (precedence values) located in a service attribute field (TOS field).

Regarding claim **42**, "wherein the table indicates that a plurality of precedence values are to be mapped to the same SVC" is anticipated by UBR precedence values in Figure 3d that both correspond to VPI/VCI 80/40 (same SVC).

Regarding claim **43**, "a signaling block for initiating a set up request to another router to set up the first SVC" is anticipated by the VC setup request sent from the sending party (signaling block) to the receiving party as spoken of on column 8, lines 12-22. Lastly, "wherein the set up request is sent only after reception of a first IP packet to be sent on the first SVC, wherein the first SVC is provisioned to terminate at the second router" is anticipated by the VC setup request transmitted upon the sending

party learning a QoS request of the receiving party as spoken of on column 9, lines 9-

25.

Regarding claim **44**, "wherein the another router also sends on the first SVC the

IP packets having the same precedence value as the first IP packet" is anticipated by

UBR precedence values in Figure 3d that both correspond to VPI/VCI 80/40 (same

SVC).

Regarding claim **45**, "wherein the signaling block sends a precedence data to

another router, wherein the precedence data indicates that the precedence value of the

first IP packet is to be associated with the first SVC such that another router can send

packets with the same precedence value on the first SVC" is anticipated by the

processing of the received IP message (precedence data) to determine the ATM level

requested service attribute (precedence value) for the corresponding output VC spoken

of on column 9, lines 25-31.

Regarding claim **46**, "wherein the precedence data is encoded in a broadband

higher layer information (BHLI) information element (IE) contained in a signaling set up

message" is anticipated by the processing of the received IP message (precedence

data) to determine the ATM level requested service attribute for the corresponding

output VC spoken of on column 9, lines 25-31.

Regarding claim **47**, "wherein the table stores a network service access point

(NSAP) address and IP address of an edge router at the next hop associated with each

SVC" is anticipated by resource management table 401 of Figure 3d that contains a

receiving party address (IP address) as well as a call identifier (NSAP) in each row.

Lastly, "wherein the encapsulator sends as a key to the table an IP address of an edge router at the next hop and a precedence value in each received IP packet to determine whether to send the IP packet on the first SVC or the second SVC" is anticipated by resource management table 401 of Figure 3d that contains a receiving party address (IP address), a CBR or UBR service attribute (precedence value), and a corresponding VPI/VCI (SVC identifier) in each row.

Conclusion

14.   The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. Yazaki et al. (U.S. 6,768,738), Acharya et al. (U.S. 5,903,559), Goudreau (U.S. 2004/0213224), and Katsube et al. (U.S. 6,188,689) are all references containing material pertinent to this application.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Michael J. Moore, Jr. whose telephone number is (571) 272-3168. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday (8:30am - 5:00pm).

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Seema S. Rao can be reached at (571) 272-3174. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the

Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for

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you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic

Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

<div style="text-align: right;">

Michael J. Moore, Jr.
Examiner
Art Unit 2666

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mjm MM

FRANK DUONG
PRIMARY EXAMINER